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UNITED STATES PATENT APPLICATION FOR:

ABOVE BARREL GRIP APPARATUS

by

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ABOVE BARREL GRIP APPARATUS

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

5 1. Field of the Invention:

The present invention generally relates to a gun grip. More specifically, the present invention is directed toward a gun having an above-barrel forehand element.

2. Background:

10 Guns having forearm grips are known in the prior art. The most common of which is the pump action shotgun. This type of gun typically has a below barrel forehand element serving to facilitate holding, cocking and other manipulation of the gun while in use. Various modifications to this element have been disclosed in the prior art. For example, United States Patent No. 4,502,238 issued to Farrar on March 5, 1985, entitled Pump Gun Forend discloses a below barrel grip for assisting in the loading of ammunition, cocking and other manipulation of the gun. Other variations demonstrating the below
15 barrel grip are disclosed in United States Patent No. 5,027,542 issued to Simonetti on July 2, 1991, entitled Handle for a Forearm Stock of a Pump Action Gun and United States Patent No. 5,068,992 issued to Velezis on December 3, 1991, entitled Forearm Assembly.

The below barrel forehand element have some disadvantages. Due to the natural recoil of a gun being in a generally upward direction, a large amount of strength must be needed in order to prevent any
20 loss of control over the gun. Additionally, the user of the gun begins to lose control when the gun is in a firing position for an extended time. Accordingly, there is a need for a gun forearm that provide better control before, during and after the firing of the gun.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention satisfies the needs discussed above. The present invention is generally directed toward a forearm for a gun, more specifically toward forearm for a gun having an above barrel handle.

5 The present invention provides a forearm structure of a gun in order to facility the holding, cocking and loading of ammunition and other manipulation of the gun. More specifically, the present invention is directed toward a handle positioned above the barrel of the gun and connected to the below barrel grip. The device is designed to facilitate right or left handed use and is made from sturdy, resilient material. An additional aspect of the present invention discloses the grip being positioned in such a
10 manner as not to interfere with the sighting mechanisms of the gun.

The term gun as used herein can represent a pump-action type gun to manually load ammunition, such as but not limited to a pump-action shotgun, or an automatically loading gun, such as but not limited to an automatic feed shotgun.

In one aspect, the present invention provides a gun comprising of a barrel, a magazine tube
15 extending adjacent and essentially parallel said barrel, and a forearm adapted to be mounted about said magazine tube, said forearm having a grip and a handle connected to said grip, said handle being located above said barrel.

In another aspect, the present invention provides a gun comprising of a barrel, a magazine tube
20 extending adjacent and essentially parallel said barrel, and a removably secured forearm adapted to be mounted about said magazine tube, said forearm having a grip and a handle connected to said grip, said handle being located above said barrel.

In yet another aspect, the present invention provides a pump forearm for a gun comprising a grip and a handle connected to said grip, said handle being located above said barrel.

In yet another aspect, the present invention provides a removably secured forearm for a gun comprising a grip and a handle connected to said grip, said handle being located above said barrel.

Further objects, features and advantages of the present invention will be readily apparent to those skilled in the art upon reference to the accompanying drawings and upon reading the following description of the preferred embodiments.

DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

Figure 1 is a side view of a prior art gun.

Figure 2 is a side view of embodiment **50** a pump-action type shotgun having a forearm assembly provided by the present invention.

Figure 3 is a cross sectional view along line 3 from Figure 2.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

Before explaining the present invention in detail, it is to be understood that the invention is not limited in its application to the details of the construction and arrangement of parts illustrated in the accompanying drawings. The invention is capable of other embodiments and of being practiced or carried out in a variety of ways. It is to be understood that the phraseology and terminology employed herein is for the purpose of description and not of limitation.

As depicted in Figure 1, a prior art gun **10** is shown. Gun **10** includes a receiver **12** which houses a firing mechanism actuated by a trigger **14** to fire a shotgun shell received in the rear portion of barrel

16. This portion of barrel **16** is connected at its rear end to the receiver **12** and projects forwardly therefrom along an axis **18**. A magazine tub **20** extends along an axis **22** parallel to and directly beneath axis **18** and is adapted to contain a series of shotgun shells which are successively moved rearwardly from the tub **20** into the receiver **12** for delivery into the barrel **16**. A grip **24** is disposed of about tube
5 **20** and is manually reciprocal along axis **22**, relative to the tube between the full line forward position A and rear position B. Grip **24** is connected to two conventional parallel action bars **26** which extend rearwardly along the underside of the barrel parallel thereto into receiver **12** and function to actuate the firing mechanism **30**, and cocking it as a result of rearward movement of grip **24**. The rearward and then the forward reciprocation of grip **24** also functions to eject a spent shell from the receiver **12** and the gun
10 through a side entry **32** and to feed the next successive shell to the barrel **16** followed by automatic closure of the rearend of the barrel **16** in preparation of the firing of that shell by actuation of trigger **14**. Gun **10** typically has a pistol-type handle **34** or a conventional rearward projecting stock not shown.

As depicted in Figures 2 and 3, an embodiment **50** of the present invention comprises a pump forearm **40** adapted to be mounted about magazine tube **20**. Pump forearm **40** comprises a grip **24** and
15 a handle assembly **41** connected to grip **24**. Handle assembly **41** is located about and above barrel **16** and has securing element **44** which is connected to a hand grip **42** by a neck element **46**. The connection of hand grip **42** to neck element **46** is such that it facilitates either right-handed or left-handed use.

It will be understood by those skilled in the art that handle assembly **41** can be removably or permanently attached to grip **24**.

20 As shown in Figures 2 and 3, one embodiment of securing element **44** is to be designed in a substantially U-shape on order to be positioned around barrel **16** while being secured in the region of

grip 24. By being positioned around barrel 16, handle assembly 41 is able to effectuate the loading and cocking features of a conventional pump type gun without interfering with the standard function of such a gun.

In operation, a person may first load into the gun a series of shells into magazine tube 20 by inserting them forwardly into the magazine through receiver 12. A first shell is then fed into the firing chamber and the gun is cocked by grasping handle 42 which is connected to grip 24 and moving such handle 42 from position A rearward to position B and then returning to forward position A. The gun is then ready to be fired. During the firing of the gun, a user may grasp handle 42 to provide additional support and stability during such firing.

It will be understood by those skilled in the art that while only a pump-action type shotgun has been illustrated, other type of guns, such as but not limited to automatic loading shotguns, can be outfitted with the forehand grip of the present invention.

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Thus, the present invention is well adapted to carry out the objects and attain the ends and advantages mentioned above as well as those inherent therein. While presently preferred embodiments have been described for purposes of this disclosure, numerous changes and modifications will be apparent to those skilled in the art.